

R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The February 25, 1998 Office Action and the comments of the Examiner have been carefully considered. In response, claims are cancelled and added, and remarks are set forth below in a sincere effort to place the present application in form for allowance. Specifically, claims 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 are cancelled and new claims 43-48 are added. The claims as amended are supported by the application as originally filed. Therefore, no new matter has been added as a result of the claim amendments.

CLAIMS

In response to the Examiner's comments in the last Office Action, claims 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 have been cancelled without prejudice and new claims 43-48 have been added. For the Examiner's convenience in examining new claims 43-48, in the Appendix attached hereto are new claims 43-48 with corresponding reference numerals inserted therein. The identification of reference numerals is not meant to be limiting of the claimed invention but is, however, meant to aid the Examiner in his understanding of the claimed invention. Claims 43-48 are patentable over the prior art for the same reasons, inter alia, as those for claims 34, 35, 38, 40 and 42.

REJECTION UNDER 35 USC 112, FIRST PARAGRAPH

In the Office Action, claims 36, 38, 40 and 42 are rejected under the first paragraph of 35 USC 112 "as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention". In response, claims 36, 38, 40 and 42 have been cancelled and new claims 43-48 have been added. In adding new claims 43-48 to the present application, the Examiner's comments with regard to the rejection of claims 36, 38, 40 and 42 under the first paragraph of 35 USC 112 have been carefully considered. Claims 43-48 comply with the requirements of the first paragraph of 35 USC 112. In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under the first paragraph of 35 USC 112 is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 USC 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

In the Office Action, claims 34, 36, 38 and 40 are rejected under the second paragraph of 35 USC 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In response, claims 34, 36, 38 and 40 have been cancelled and new claims 43-48 have been added. In adding new claims 43-48, the Examiner's comments in connection with the rejection of claims

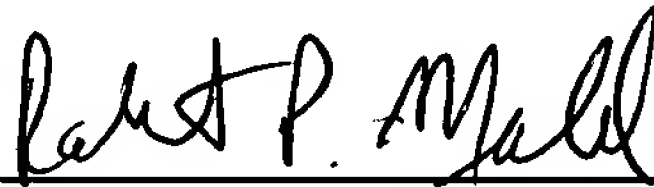
34, 36, 38 and 40 under the second paragraph of 35 USC 112 have been carefully considered. In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under the second paragraph of 35 USC 112 is respectfully requested.

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In view of the foregoing, entry of the amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue with claims 43-48 are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enc. Appendix (claims with reference numerals)